AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a subroutine ~~function, the function for assessing a parameter~~, the method comprising:

    a) displaying a field for receiving a rule on a computer~~, the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator, and a parameter value~~;

    b) ~~entering~~ receiving a rule ~~into~~ by the computer, the rule defining a premise and a conclusion to be drawn if the premise is true;

    c) transmitting the rule to a server;

    d) storing the rule on the server; and

    e) generating a ~~function~~ subroutine by the server that determines if the premise is true and, based at least in part upon the conclusion, outputting a first value if the premise is true and outputting a second value if the premise is false; ~~for assessing the parameter.~~

    f) receiving a parameter by the computer;

    g) transmitting the parameter to the server;

    h) determining, by the server, based at least in part upon the subroutine and the parameter, if the premise is true or if the premise is false; and

    i) transmitting the first value to the computer if the premise is true, otherwise transmitting the second value to the computer.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of ~~entering~~ receiving the rule includes ~~entering~~ receiving the rule ~~into~~ by a browser running on the computer.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of ~~entering~~ receiving the rule includes ~~entering~~ receiving a Java equation.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of ~~entering~~ receiving the rule includes ~~entering~~ receiving a PL/SQL equation.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of ~~entering~~ receiving the rule includes ~~entering~~ receiving a Basic equation.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of ~~entering~~ receiving the rule includes ~~entering~~ receiving a Virtual Basic equation.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of transmitting the rule to the server includes transmitting the ~~criterion~~ rule over the Internet.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of generating the subroutine ~~function~~ includes generating a Java function.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of generating the ~~subroutine~~ ~~function~~ includes generating a PL/SQL function.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of generating the ~~subroutine~~ ~~function~~ includes generating a Basic function.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

~~f)~~—verifying that the subroutine ~~function~~ is valid;

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the act of verifying that the subroutine ~~function~~ is valid includes running the subroutine ~~function~~ through a syntax checker.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the act of verifying that the subroutine ~~function~~ is valid includes compiling the subroutine ~~function~~ and determining if the subroutine ~~function~~ compiled without generating an error.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the act of verifying that the subroutine ~~function~~ is valid includes compiling the subroutine ~~function~~, determining if compiling the subroutine ~~function~~ generated an error, and if compiling the subroutine ~~function~~ generated an error, then displaying a screen on the computer that allows editing of the ~~criterion~~-rule.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

~~f)   entering the parameter into the computer;~~

g) transmitting the parameter to the server;

h) generating an assessment of the parameter;

i) transmitting the assessment from the server to the computer; and

j) displaying the assessment on the computer.

displaying either the first value or the second value on the computer.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the act of ~~entering~~ receiving the

parameter includes ~~entering~~ receiving the parameter ~~into~~ by a browser.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the act of transmitting the parameter to the server

includes transmitting the ~~criterion~~ parameter over the Internet.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the method further includes ~~act of~~

~~generating the assessment includes~~ executing the subroutine ~~function~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the act of transmitting the first value

includes transmitting the first value over the Internet ~~assessment from the server to the computer~~

~~includes transmitting the assessment over the Internet~~.

20. (Currently Amended) A program storage device containing instructions that when executed

by a computer perform the following acts:

●

a) display a field for receiving a rule, ~~the rule including a parameter, a parameter operator, and a parameter value~~ the rule defining a premise and a conclusion to be drawn if the premise is true;

b) transmit ~~a~~ the rule ~~to a server~~;

c) display a field for receiving ~~the~~ a parameter; and

d) ~~display~~ receive an assessment that is generated by a server based at least in part upon the premise and the parameter.

21. (Currently Amended) A program storage device containing instructions that when executed by a server perform the following acts:

a) receive a rule defining a premise and a conclusion to be drawn if the premise is true from a remote electronic device ~~from the computer, the rule including a parameter, a parameter operator, and a parameter value~~; and

b) generate a subroutine ~~function~~ for ~~assessing the parameter~~ determining if the premise is true or the premise is false and drawing a conclusion based at least upon whether the premise is true or the premise is false.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

Application No.: 09/843,495   Page 7